



File Code: 1570 (215)  
#12-01-00-0029

Date: March 5, 2012

Steve Kelly  
Montana Ecosystems Defense Council, Inc.  
PO Box 4641  
Bozeman, MT 59772

**CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT: 7000 1530 0002 8392 4439**

Dear Mr. Kelly:

This is my decision on the disposition of the appeal you filed, on behalf of the Montana Ecosystems Defense Council, regarding the Bozeman Municipal Watershed ROD on the Gallatin National Forest.

My review of your appeal was conducted pursuant to, and in accordance with, 36 CFR 215.18 to ensure the analysis and decision are in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, policy, and orders. I have reviewed the appeal record, including your arguments, the information referenced in the Forest Supervisor's February 8, 2012 transmittal letter, and the Appeal Reviewing Officer's analysis and recommendation (copy enclosed). The transmittal letter provides the specific page references to discussions in the (ROD) and project file, which bear upon your objections. I specifically incorporate in this decision the appeal record, the references and citations contained in the transmittal letter, and the Appeal Reviewing Officer's analysis and recommendation.

The Appeal Reviewing Officer has considered your arguments, the appeal record, and the transmittal letter and recommends the Forest Supervisor's decision be affirmed and your requested relief be denied.

Based upon a review of the references and citations provided by the Forest Supervisor, I find the objections were adequately considered and addressed in the ROD. I agree with the Appeal Reviewing Officer's analysis and conclusions in regard to your appeal objections. I find the Forest Supervisor has made a reasoned decision and has complied with all laws, regulations, and policy.

After careful consideration of the above factors, I affirm and approve the Forest Supervisor's decision to implement the Bozeman Municipal Watershed project. Your requested relief is denied.



My decision constitutes the final administrative determination of the Department of Agriculture [36 CFR 215.18(c)].

Sincerely,

  
JANE L. COTTRELL  
Deputy Regional Forester

cc: Teri Seth, Steve Christiansen, Mary C Erickson, Ray G Smith, Peter N Zimmerman, Kevin Riordan